

Application No. 10/042,373
Reply to Office Action of 12/16/2003

Attorney Docket No. 10287.48
Customer No. 27683

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Claims 1-21 (Canceled).

22. (Currently amended) A method of controlling a position of [carrier] carriers holding micro-substances comprises the steps of:

pouring remote-acting bodies [for positions thereof to be] which can be positionally manipulated by a remote force, micro-substances including a target substance of an assay [and so on], and carriers capable of holding the micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies, into a liquid, a gas or a solid in accordance with a predetermined order,

making the remote-acting bodies and the micro-substances be held in the surfaces of the carrier by agitating the suspension system, and

controlling positions of the carriers holding the micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies in the surfaces thereof by applying a remote force to the remote-acting bodies.

23. (Currently amended) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 22, wherein the remote-acting bodies [consist of] comprise magnetic particles, [the micro-substances contain a target substance of assay] and the carriers [are of] comprise cellulose.

24. (Currently amended) [A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 22, further comprising the steps of:] A method of controlling a position of carriers holding micro-substances comprises the steps of:

pouring remote-acting bodies which can be positionally manipulated by a remote force, micro-substances including a target substance of an assay, and carriers capable

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of holding the micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies, into a liquid, a gas or a solid in accordance with a predetermined order,

making the remote-acting bodies and the micro-substances be held in the surfaces of the carrier by agitating the suspension system, and

controlling positions of the carriers holding the micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies in the surfaces thereof by applying a remote force to the remote-acting bodies,

the pouring comprising pouring sterilized reductive enzyme, [micro-organisms such as bacteria or viruses being a target substance of an assay and so on,] and

comprising selecting the carriers to be sterilized cellulose-carriers, selecting the liquid, gas or solid to be [in] a sterilized liquid culture medium, selecting the remote-acting bodies to be [pouring] magnetic particles, and selecting the remote force to be [in the liquid culture medium, agitating the liquid suspended by them, controlling positions of the micro-organisms by applying or removing] a magnetic field.

25. (Currently amended) [A method of controlling positions of carrier holding micro-substances according to claim 22, further comprising the steps of: pouring] A method of controlling a position of carriers holding micro-substances comprises the steps of:

pouring remote-acting bodies which can be positionally manipulated by a remote force, micro-substances including a target substance of an assay, and carriers capable of holding the micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies, into a liquid, a gas or a solid in accordance with a predetermined order,

making the remote-acting bodies and the micro-substances be held in the surfaces of the carrier by agitating the suspension system,

controlling positions of the carriers holding the micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies in the surfaces thereof by applying a remote force to the remote-acting bodies,

selecting the carriers to be cellulose-carriers having a plurality of cavities or holes, and

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selecting the remote-acting bodies to be magnetic particles [, and micro-substances such as antibiotics or anticancer substances, agitating the liquid suspended by them, controlling positions of the carriers holding micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies in the surfaces thereof by applying or removing a magnetic field to or from the remote-acting bodies].

26. (Currently amended) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 22, further comprising the steps of:

[pouring micro-substances being hard to be filtered,] selecting the remote-acting bodies to be magnetic bodies,

[and carriers into a liquid, agitating the liquid suspended by the,] selecting the remote force to be a magnetic field, and

controlling the magnetic field so as to [use the remote-acting bodies and] control the positions of the carriers [as auxiliary chemicals for filtration by applying or removing a magnetic field to the liquid] in a manner which causes filtering of the micro-substances through separation of the carriers from the suspension.

27. (New) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 22, comprising configuring the carriers to have a plurality of holes, cavities, concavities or convexities with a size capable of holding the micro-substances and the remote-acting bodies, the agitating causing the micro-substances and remote-acting bodies to become fixed within the holes, cavities, concavities or convexities of the carriers.

28. (New) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 22 comprising, prior to the pouring, separately preparing the carriers, the remote-acting bodies, and the micro-substances.

29. (New) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 24, comprising selecting the micro-organisms to comprise one of bacteria and viruses.

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30. (New) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 24, comprising selecting the predetermined order to be addition to the liquid culture medium in sequence the sterilized reductive enzyme, the micro-organisms, the sterilized cellulose-carriers, and the magnetic particles.

31. (New) A method of controlling positions of carriers holding micro-substances according to claim 25, comprising selecting the micro-substances to comprise one of antibiotics and anticancer substances.